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Given the growing populations of Colorado River Basin States, "it is preposterous and illogical to lock into perpetuity a system of water distribution that ignores population shifts and other Colorado River Basin changes, and,

"Because there exists a need to restore reason, common sense, and sanity to management of the Colorado River,

"The areas of the seven Basin States and the Republic of Mexico within the Colorado River Basin should seek to create a new entity administratively independent of their federal and state governments and other special interests. To accomplish this, the seven Basin States:

"Should create, using Section 19 of the Boulder Canyon Project Act (of 1928), a Colorado River

Basin Authority or other entity independent of the U.S. secretary of the Interior, and invite Mexican water users to cooperate. [See footnote 1 below]

"(Should the Basin States meet to create a Colorado River Basin Authority, Section 19 permits the U.S. president to name a representative to 'participate' and to 'report to Congress of the proceedings and of any compact or agreements entered into.' The States and the Congress have to approve any agreement, but the Interior secretary has no role unless named by the president. The Interior secretary should not be named.)

"Powers of the Authority should include:

"1) Use of eminent domain to reallocate water from farmers or others, both on and off Indian reservations, for urban purposes. There should be one-time compensation to anyone giving up water.

(Reservation Indians are citizens of the U.S. and should be treated as all other citizens, i.e., the special privileges awarded reservation Indians by the U.S. Congress at the expense of other citizens should end.)

"2) Own and operate the river dams.

"3) Construct additional dams and diversion works.

"4) Augment the river supply

"Other considerations:

"The Authority should urge the U.S. Congress to:

"1) Repeal the U.S. Supreme Court's 'practicably irrigable acreage' (PIA) ruling as the measure of water for Indian reservations (PIA ignores reality, from climate to location, and awards excessive quantities of water to some tribes). (See footnote for two such tribes in Arizona)

"2) Repeal language in Section 5, Boulder Canyon Project Act, which the U.S. Supreme Court purposefully misinterpreted to give the U.S. secretary of the Interior power to distribute water to Arizona, California and Nevada, and to users within these states.

"3) Repeal all laws based upon PIA.

"4) Repeal all laws that conflict with powers given the Colorado River Basin Authority.

"5) End the reservation system for Indians and assure 'the equal protection of the laws' for all citizens as provided in the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution."

Footnote 1: "Ideally, as noted by John Wesley Powell, river basins should be operated as a unit. For the Colorado River Basin, options include: 1)

The U.S. should acquire the portion of Mexico receiving Colorado River water; 2) Mexico should acquires areas of the seven basin states within the basin; 3) The Colorado River Basin, including the area in the U.S. and Mexico, should create an independent Colorado River Basin Republic. None of these are likely to occur, which means the present messy management of the river will continue unless the seven Basin States unite and act to change the system."

Footnote 2: "With implementation of the Arizona Water Settlements Act of 2004, two Arizona Indian reservations, with less than one-half of 1% of Arizona's 5,130,632 people in 2000, are supposed to have yearly almost 1 million acre-feet of Arizona's Colorado River water entitlement.

These two are the Gila River Indian Community (GRIC), 328,800 acre-feet (including 17,000 acre-feet from ASARCO, Inc., that remains unsettled), and the Colorado River Indian Tribes, 662,402 acre-feet. With fewer than 19,000 residents, these two reservations will have 991,202 acre-feet (including the 17,000 acre-feet). Add in the Gila River tribe's other water, and the two reservations yearly will have 1,315,902 acre-feet. Not morally,

ethically, or historically are these tribes entitled to that much water. These tribes no doubt will be founding members of the Organization of Water Exporting Tribes (OWET)."

All of the quoted material above was sent April 05, 2007, to the "Regional Director, Lower Colorado Region, Bureau of Reclamation, Attention: BC00-1000, Box 61470, Boulder City, Nevada 89006-1470," in connection with "Guidelines for Lower Basin Shortages, etc." The points made are as valid today as then, and the seven Basin States should do everything in their power to return control of the water to the people using it, which means taking it out of the hands of the Washington, D.C., bureaucrats and influential special interests, including Indian tribes. As noted elsewhere, it is preposterous that the City of Las Vegas and Clark County, Nevada, and the City of San Diego and San Diego County, California, should be forced to seek water for their populations when water is available from the Colorado River. For the peoples of the Basin States to forever be locked into the Colorado River Compact is disrespect for them and for common sense.

Who benefits by this nonsense? Look to the special interests that swarm to Washington, D.C., be they Democrats, Republicans, Greens, etc., and the bureaucracy.

With the 2010 census, the Arizona population rose to 6,392,017 people, with the combined population of the Gila River Indian Community and the Colorado River Indian Tribes continuing at about 19,000 people and representing about one-third of 1 (one) percent of the State of Arizona's 2010 population. That these two tribes continue to, in effect, own and control almost a million acre-feet of Arizona's Colorado River entitlement is an assault upon common sense and the U.S.

Constitution, which is supposed to provide for "the equal protection of the laws." When are we going to get "the equal protection of the laws" in our republic?